

HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL East Region (Region 4)

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Position	Member	County
Urban Fire		
Rural Fire		
Police Chief		
Sheriff		
Mayor		
County Supervisor		
Tribal Representative		N/A
Emergency Manager		
AZ Dept. of Public Safety		N/A
Public Health Representative		N/A
At large		
At large		

**Regional Advisory Councils are currently in the nomination process to fill the above positions.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY EAST REGION HOMELAND SECURITY STRATEGY (ERHSS)

FORWARD

The East Region of the Arizona Department of Homeland Security (ADOHS) is comprised of Gila, Graham, Greenlee, and Pinal Counties; the cities, towns, unincorporated areas, and Tribal Nation properties that lie within their corporate boundaries and areas of responsibility. This document will address the issues, current and future, that may impact the security of the citizens of the Region, their property, infrastructure, and livelihood. The ERHSS, therefore, anticipates ongoing assessments to ensure effective and efficient resourcing of local, County, Regional and State security efforts. The ERHSS will be amended as needed to address additional issues as they arise.

Existing relationships between the Region's Counties will be maintained and built upon to strengthen the overall effectiveness of the Region's efforts. Additionally, each County should maintain its own Homeland Security Strategy and efforts while participating in the Regional process.

VISION

The vision of the East Region is to provide the resources and direction to detect, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from a terrorism incident and all other critical hazards, while guarding the constitutionally protected rights of its citizens and residents.

FOCUS

The East Region will use a multidisciplinary approach and will develop and enhance capability and capacity to prevent and reduce the vulnerability of the

Region from incidents of terrorism and all other critical hazards. Counties of the East Region will continue existing relationships and develop new partnerships as appropriate for the good of the Region. Improvement of local, county, regional, and state capabilities to detect, mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from a WMD terrorism incident and all other critical hazards is the desired outcome.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide strategic direction for enhancing regional capability and capacity to: assess and address threats and vulnerabilities to terrorism and all other critical hazards within the Region; prevent terrorist attacks within the Region; minimize the damage and facilitate the recovery from terrorism and all other critical hazards that affect the safety, well-being, and economic security of the citizens and residents of the Region.

The ERHSS draws guiding principles and objectives from Securing Arizona, a Roadmap for Arizona Homeland Security.

COORDINATION

The Director of Arizona's Department of Homeland Security (ADOHS), on behalf of the Governor, has appointed five Regional Advisory Councils (RAC). Each RAC is multidisciplinary and comprised of the following: one Mayor, one Sheriff, one County Supervisor, one Emergency Manager, one Tribal Community Representative, one Police Chief, one urban Fire Chief, one Rural Fire Chief, two at-large members, and one ad-hoc member designated by the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS). All but the ad-hoc member has voting rights. Sub-committees may be appointed by the RAC, upon approval from the Director, ADOHS, to address issues deemed necessary by the RAC. A Chairperson elected by the body directs the RAC.

Duties of the East Region Advisory Council are:

1. Develop, implement, and maintain a Regional Homeland Security Strategy.
2. Incorporate Arizona's Homeland Security Strategy into RAC planning and processes.
 - a. Support and assist in implementation of Arizona's Comprehensive Statewide Risk Assessment.
 - b. Support and assist in implementation of equipment procurement through Arizona's Prime Vendor Program.
 - c. Support and assist an integrated regional approach to homeland security in Arizona.
3. Advise the Director, ADOHS on all homeland security matters pertaining to respective regions through Regional Planner.
4. In conjunction with respective Regional Planner:
 - a. Establish baseline prevention and response capabilities through anchor cities consistent with state and regional plans.
 - b. Collaborate with other regional councils and organizations to ensure successful integration of programs and initiatives aimed at homeland security and securing Arizona.
5. Implement standard operating guidelines established by the ADOHS.
6. Other duties and responsibilities as determined by the Director, ADOHS.

The East Region RAC is responsible for coordinating efforts of the individual Counties in achieving the overall goals and objectives of the ERHSS. This includes collecting input on the needs of the Counties and advising the ADOHS on funding for projects requested. The identification and location of potential threat elements, key assets, critical infrastructure and population will direct the Region's efforts to mitigate threat, protect infrastructure and enhance existing response and recovery capabilities.

GOALS

The main goals of the ERHSS include:

1. Bolster response and recovery capabilities and protect emergency responders.
2. Work to provide Countywide and Regional interoperability and to support all facets of Emergency Services.
3. Create secure intelligence and information sharing systems and networks.
4. Develop and maintain assessment and detection capabilities.
5. Enhance and support the State and National Homeland Security Strategies.

OBJECTIVES

These objectives support the ERHSS goals, address threat and vulnerability, and work toward enhancing the Region's capabilities to respond, mitigate, and recover from terrorism and other critical hazards.

- ✓ Ensure all first responders are equipped and trained with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and procedures.
- ✓ Support baseline capabilities that integrate statewide activities and functions. (Major Emergency Medical, risk assessment, PPE, communications, JRIES, heavy rescue/haz mat/EOD, counter-terrorism, prevention training, NIMS implementation).
- ✓ Improve and enhance interoperable communication systems and functions.
- ✓ Integrate into a coordinated federal/state/regional system for the collection, analysis and dissemination of intelligence and information.
- ✓ Implement Federal and State standards for hardening public and private key assets and critical infrastructure, including roadways, dams, power utilities, water resources, communications and information technology systems, mines, and agricultural concerns.
- ✓ Foster and support collaboration within the Region, with neighboring Regions, the State of Arizona, and the State of New Mexico.
- ✓ Incorporate Federal, State, County, and Tribal legal//legislative/resolution review into Regional Homeland Security processes.
- ✓ Provide training for prevention of, response to, and recovery from terrorism.
- ✓ Work with the communities and Counties of the Region to standardize equipment for the purpose of achieving interoperability.
- ✓ Support exercises that advance regional and State strategies.
- ✓ Incorporate the private sector into processes, training, and exercises.
- ✓ Adopt protocols and procedures to detect and treat disease outbreak and biological or chemical weapons attacks on population or agriculture.

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

On behalf of the East Region, the RAC will review projects submitted by county, tribal, and local jurisdictions. All projects submitted for consideration must first support the Regional and State Strategies. The RAC will then prioritize and recommend projects to the Director of the Arizona Department of Homeland

Security for funding from Federal Homeland Security. After meeting any mandated or previously established requirements, the priorities for recommending projects for funding are:

1. Communications operability including equipment, procedures, and training.
2. Hazardous Materials/WMD response including equipment, procedures, and training.
3. National Incident Management System (NIMS) implementation including equipment, procedures, and training.
4. Communications interoperability including equipment, procedures, and training.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The ERHSS anticipates ongoing assessments to ensure effective and efficient resourcing of County, Regional, State, and Federal security efforts. County, Regional, State, and Federal resources will be applied to support the ERHSS and the planning, equipment, training and exercise needs of the Region. Implementation of the ERHSS will be the joint responsibility of the East Region RAC, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, and Pinal Counties under direction from ADOHS and the Arizona Division of Emergency Management.